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February 5, 2018

Council President Herb J Wesson, Jr.
200 N Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: CF 13-1493 Sidewalk Vending Policy

Dear Council President Wesson,

Founded in 2005, the South Park Business Improvement District (BID) is a 52-block region in Downtown Los Angeles that includes the STAPLES Center, Los Angeles Convention Center, L.A. Live, and a rapidly growing residential population. As the voice of this important and growing neighborhood, we understand the critical role that thriving commercial areas and new economic opportunities play in supporting a vibrant community.

The South Park BID recognizes the effort the City Council has made to present a comprehensive new framework for the management of sidewalk vending and appreciates the steps you've taken to consider the needs of business owners, residents, sports and entertainment districts, filming teams, and property owners in your decision-making process, and the local controls created through the implementation of Special Vending Districts and the adjacent business approval requirements.

However, without the implementation of said regulatory framework and the necessary resources to enforce, the current climate presents concern with regard to public safety. In our district alone we've seen cases of propane tanks exploding in large crowds, expired meats and vegetables sold for public consumption, and bulky equipment blocking fire exits. With these examples as our foundation, we offer the following comments and ask for urgent response from the Council:

Enforcement

In order to support vendors participating in legal street vending, it is essential that the enforcement model distinguish between vendors operating with a permit, and those operating without. Additionally, enforcement procedures beyond administrative citations should be

SOUTH PARK BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

1100 S Flower St #3400, Los Angeles, CA 90015

www.southpark.la



clarified and made available to LAPD and the County Health Department.

Property and Business Owner Approval

The requirement that street vendors receive the consent of adjacent property and business owners is a crucial component of the proposed framework. Support from property and business owners throughout the City of Los Angeles is essential to maintaining friendly and respectful commercial districts.

Counterfeit Goods

City ordinances should expressly prohibit the sale of counterfeit goods.

Streamlining

Going forward, the vending district approval process should be streamlined. After initial vending maps are approved by City Council, future map changes should be handled at the administrative level.

We appreciate your consideration of both our concerns. We look forward to continuing to work together on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Ellen Riotto
Executive Director
South Park Business Improvement District

Cc: Mayor Eric Garcetti
Councilmember Bob Blumenfield
Councilmember Jose Huizar
Councilmember Curren Price